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Your Reference: AWF/BF/P00/004
Application No: GB 0000636.1

22 August 2000

Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)

I enclose two copies of my search report and two copies of the citations.

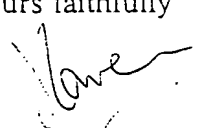
Publication

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **19 September 2000**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

Amendment/withdrawal

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: **"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT"**.

Yours faithfully


J. C. Cowen
Examiner

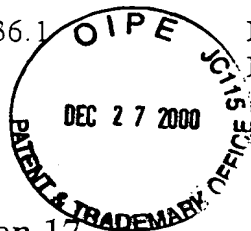
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[†]Use of E-mail: Please note that e-mail should be used for correspondence only.



Application No: GB 0000636.1
Claims searched: 1-31

Examiner: J. C. Cowen
Date of search: 18 August 2000



Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.R): H4F FDE

Int Cl (Ed.7): H04N 5/913, 7/03, 7/16, 7/167, 7/173

Other: WPI, EPODOC, PAJ

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage		Relevant to claims
X	EP 0662769 A1	AT & T Corp - see abstract & claim 1	1,21,22 & 31 at least
X	US 5060079	Rufus-Isaacs - see column 2, lines 26-39	1,21,22 & 31 at least
X	US 4823385	Hegendoerfer - see abstract and column 1, lines 47-56	1,21,22 & 31 at least
X	US 4567516	Scherer et al - see abstract & column 1, lines 31-39	1,21,22 & 31 at least

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X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.